

**II. Amendments to the Specification:**

*Please amend the specification at page 19, lines 18-32, as follows:*

$R_e$  and  $R_f$  are each independently a hydrogen, an alkyl, a cycloalkoxy, a halogen, a hydroxy, an hydroxylalkyl, an alkoxyalkyl, an arylheterocyclic ring, an alkylaryl, a cycloalkylalkyl, a heterocyclicalkyl, an alkoxy, a haloalkoxy, an amino, an alkylamino, a dialkylamino, an arylamino, a diarylamino, an alkylarylamino, an alkoxyhaloalkyl, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonic acid, a sulfonic ester, an alkylsulfonic acid, an arylsulfonic acid, an arylalkoxy, an alkylthio, an arylthio, a cycloalkylthio, a cycloalkenyl, a cyano, an aminoalkyl, an aminoaryl, an aryl, an arylalkyl, an alkylaryl, a carboxamido, a alkylcarboxamido, an arylcarboxamido, an amidyl, a carboxyl, a carbamoyl, a carbamate, an alkylcarboxylic acid, an arylcarboxylic acid, an alkylcarbonyl, an arylcarbonyl, an ester, a carboxylic ester, an alkylcarboxylic ester, an arylcarboxylic ester, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonamido, an alkylsulfonamido, an arylsulfonamido, a sulfonic ester, a urea, a phosphoryl, a nitro,  $-T-Q$ , or  $(C(R_e)(R_f))_k-T-Q-(C(R_o)(R_p))_l-T-Q$ , or  $R_e$  and  $R_f$  taken together with the carbons to which they are attached form a carbonyl, a methanthial, a heterocyclic ring, a cycloalkyl group or a bridged cycloalkyl group;

$R_o$  and  $R_p$  are each independently a hydrogen, an alkyl, a cycloalkoxy, a halogen, a hydroxy, an hydroxylalkyl, an alkoxyalkyl, an arylheterocyclic ring, an alkylaryl, a cycloalkylalkyl, a heterocyclicalkyl, an alkoxy, a haloalkoxy, an amino, an alkylamino, a dialkylamino, an arylamino, a diarylamino, an alkylarylamino, an alkoxyhaloalkyl, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonic acid, a sulfonic ester, an alkylsulfonic acid, an arylsulfonic acid, an arylalkoxy, an alkylthio, an arylthio, a cycloalkylthio, a cycloalkenyl, a cyano, an aminoalkyl, an aminoaryl, an aryl, an arylalkyl, an alkylaryl, a carboxamido, a alkylcarboxamido, an arylcarboxamido, an amidyl, a carboxyl, a carbamoyl, a carbamate, an alkylcarboxylic acid, an arylcarboxylic acid, an alkylcarbonyl, an arylcarbonyl, an ester, a carboxylic ester, an alkylcarboxylic ester, an arylcarboxylic ester, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonamido, an alkylsulfonamido, an arylsulfonamido, a sulfonic ester, a urea, a phosphoryl, a nitro,  $-T-Q$ , or  $R_o$  and  $R_p$  taken together with the carbons to which they are attached form a carbonyl, a methanthial, a heterocyclic ring, a cycloalkyl group or a bridged cycloalkyl group;

***Please amend the specification at page 20, lines 6-14, as follows:***

$R_i$  is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aryl, an alkylcarboxylic acid, an arylcarboxylic acid, an alkylcarboxylic ester, an arylcarboxylic ester, an alkylcarboxamido, an arylcarboxamido, an alkylaryl, an alkylsulfinyl, an alkylsulfonyl, an arylsulfinyl, an arylsulfonyl, a sulfonamido, a carboxamido, a carboxylic ester, an amino alkyl, an amino aryl,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-C}(\text{T-Q})(\text{R}_e)(\text{R}_f)$ , or  $-(\text{N}_2\text{O}_2)^-\bullet\text{M}^+$ , wherein  $\text{M}^+$  is an organic or inorganic cation; with the proviso that when  $R_i$  is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-C}(\text{T-Q})(\text{R}_e)(\text{R}_f)$  or  $-(\text{N}_2\text{O}_2)^-\bullet\text{M}^+$ , or  $\text{R}_e$  or  $\text{R}_f$  are  $\text{T-Q}$  or  $(\text{C}(\text{R}_e)(\text{R}_f))_k\text{-T-Q } (\text{C}(\text{R}_o)(\text{R}_p))_k\text{-T-Q}$ , then the " $-\text{T-Q}$ " subgroup can be a hydrogen, an alkyl, an alkoxy, an alkoxyalkyl, an aminoalkyl, a hydroxy, a heterocyclic ring or an aryl group;

***Please amend the specification at page 28, lines 4-28, as follows:***

wherein  $m$  is an integer from 2 to 20;  $\text{R}_e$  and  $\text{R}_f$  are each independently a hydrogen, an alkyl, a cycloalkoxy, a halogen, a hydroxy, an hydroxyalkyl, an alkoxyalkyl, an arylheterocyclic ring, an alkylaryl, a cycloalkylalkyl, a heterocyclicalkyl, an alkoxy, a haloalkoxy, an amino, an alkylamino, a dialkylamino, an arylamino, a diarylamino, an alkylarylamino, an alkoxyhaloalkyl, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonic acid, a sulfonic ester, an alkylsulfonic acid, an arylsulfonic acid, an arylalkoxy, an alkylthio, an arylthio, a cycloalkylthio, a cycloalkenyl, a cyano, an aminoalkyl, an aminoaryl, an aryl, an arylalkyl, an alkylaryl, a carboxamido, a alkylcarboxamido, an arylcarboxamido, an amidyl, a carboxyl, a carbamoyl, a carbamate, an alkylcarboxylic acid, an arylcarboxylic acid, an alkylcarbonyl, an arylcarbonyl, an ester, a carboxylic ester, an alkylcarboxylic ester, an arylcarboxylic ester, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonamido, an alkylsulfonamido, an arylsulfonamido, a sulfonic ester, a urea, a phosphoryl, a nitro,  $-\text{T-Q}$ , or  $(\text{C}(\text{R}_e)(\text{R}_f))_k\text{-T-Q } (\text{C}(\text{R}_o)(\text{R}_p))_k\text{-T-Q}$ , or  $\text{R}_e$  and  $\text{R}_f$  taken together with the carbons to which they are attached form a carbonyl, a methanthial, a heterocyclic ring, a cycloalkyl group or a bridged cycloalkyl group;  $\text{R}_o$  and  $\text{R}_p$  are each independently a hydrogen, an alkyl, a cycloalkoxy, a halogen, a hydroxy, an hydroxyalkyl, an alkoxyalkyl, an arylheterocyclic ring, an alkylaryl, a cycloalkylalkyl, a heterocyclicalkyl, an alkoxy, a haloalkoxy, an amino, an alkylamino, a dialkylamino, an arylamino, a diarylamino, an alkylarylamino, an alkoxyhaloalkyl, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonic acid, a sulfonic ester, an alkylsulfonic acid, an arylsulfonic acid, an arylalkoxy, an alkylthio, an arylthio, a cycloalkylthio, a cycloalkenyl, a cyano, an aminoalkyl, an aminoaryl, an aryl, an arylalkyl, an

alkylaryl, a carboxamido, a alkylcarboxamido, an arylcarboxamido, an amidyl, a carboxyl, a carbamoyl, a carbamate, an alkylcarboxylic acid, an arylcarboxylic acid, an alkylcarbonyl, an arylcarbonyl, an ester, a carboxylic ester, an alkylcarboxylic ester, an arylcarboxylic ester, a haloalkoxy, a sulfonamido, an alkylsulfonamido, an arylsulfonamido, a sulfonic ester, a urea, a phosphoryl, a nitro, -T-Q, or R<sub>o</sub> and R<sub>p</sub> taken together with the carbons to which they are attached form a carbonyl, a methanthial, a heterocyclic ring, a cycloalkyl group or a bridged cycloalkyl group; Q is -NO or -NO<sub>2</sub>; and T is independently a covalent bond, a carbonyl, an oxygen, -S(O)<sub>o</sub>- or -N(R<sub>a</sub>)R<sub>i</sub>-, wherein o is an integer from 0 to 2, R<sub>a</sub> is a lone pair of electrons, a hydrogen or an alkyl group; R<sub>i</sub> is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aryl, an alkylcarboxylic acid, an aryl carboxylic acid, an alkylcarboxylic ester, an arylcarboxylic ester, an alkylcarboxamido, an arylcarboxamido, an alkylaryl, an alkylsulfinyl, an alkylsulfonyl, an arylsulfinyl, an arylsulfonyl, a sulfonamido, a carboxamido, a carboxylic ester, an amino alkyl, an amino aryl, -CH<sub>2</sub>-C(T-Q)(R<sub>e</sub>)(R<sub>f</sub>), or -(N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-)•M<sup>+</sup>, wherein M<sup>+</sup> is an organic or inorganic cation; with the proviso that when R<sub>i</sub> is -CH<sub>2</sub>-C(T-Q)(R<sub>e</sub>)(R<sub>f</sub>) or -(N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-)•M<sup>+</sup>; then "-T-Q" can be a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkoxyalkyl group, an aminoalkyl group, a hydroxy group or an aryl group.